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Division of Financial Management
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COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN
of the
Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program

Mission

The mission of the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program is to meet the needs of the medically indigent in the State of Idaho who do not qualify for state or federal health and welfare programs, but who qualify for county assistance. Each county is responsible for the first \$10,000.00 in medical bills incurred by the medically indigent resident of that county in any 12-month period. The Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program is responsible for medical bills during the 12 month period that are in excess of \$10,000.00.

General Goals

The general goals and functions of the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program are as follows:

1. To pay medical bills for qualified medically indigent person exceeding \$10,000;
2. Administer the fees and costs paid;
3. Obtain reimbursement from or on behalf of the indigents; and

How Goals and Objectives Are Achieved

1. Pay medical bills -
 - A. Amount paid;
 - B. Number of claims;
 - C. Cost of the average claim;

- D. Amount of largest claim;
- 2. Administer fees and costs paid -
 - A. Contract for program administrator;
 - B. Catastrophic Board expenses; and
 - C. Administrative costs as percentage of claims paid.
- 3. Obtain reimbursement -
 - A. Amount reimbursed;
 - B. Number of claims; and
 - C. Amount of the average annual reimbursement.

Performance Standards and Measures As It Relates to Strategic Plan

- 1. We insure county compliance with the statutory definition of medical indigency in each case.
- 2. We require counties to obtain reimbursements from medically indigent individuals who have received assistance and are capable of making full or partial reimbursement.
- 3. Assist county prosecuting attorneys in defending difficult claims made by health care providers against their county and/or the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program.

Key Factors External to Agency and Beyond Its Control

Inasmuch as the definition of medical indigency is statutory, the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program has no ability to control who qualifies and who does not qualify for assistance. As such, when the economy is strong and there is a low level of unemployment, less people qualify for participation in the program. When the economy is weak and unemployment increases, greater number of individuals qualify for participation in the program. Obviously, the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program has no ability to control the state of the economy or the level of employment. Medical inflation is also an external factor controlling costs to the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program over which it has no control.

Division of Human Resources

The Catastrophic Health Case Cost Program has no state employees. All labor is performed by an appointed Board which receives only per diem compensation of \$50 plus actual expenses. The Board meets approximately nine times per year. The Board contracts with Anderson Nelson Hall Smith, P.A. as independent contractors, which provides all necessary services for day-to-day operations of the agency.

Program Evaluations Used

- 1. The Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program audits each case submitted by a county to insure compliance with the statutory definition of medical indigency and eligibility for participation in the program.

2. The Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program requires the counties to file medical indigency liens in each case where assistance rendered and closely monitors reimbursements from recipients.

3. The Catastrophic Program maintains constant vigilance with regard to maintaining low administrative costs.

Blake G. Hall
Contract Administrator

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